Increase in flights on Bombay-Cochin-Bombay sectors

1449. SHRI NAND KISHORE BHATT:
SHRIMATI MONIKA DAS:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to increase the flights on the Bombay-Cochin-Bombay sector in view of increasing traffic demand from the Gulf region; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the winter schedule of 1984-85, Indian Airlines has plans to step up frequencies on this sector from the present 24 to 28 per week.

Aid from West Germany

1450. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the West German Government has increased its aid to India considerably during the current year; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) The West German Government agreed to a total financial allocation of DM 360.00 million for the year 1984-85 compared to their allocation of DM 337.00 million during the year 1983-84. In addition, the allocations for technical assistance and scholarships for 1984-85 was of the order of DM 30.00 million and DM 2.05 million as against DM 34.3 million and DM 2.72 million respectively for 1983-84.

Meeting of Trade Ministers in Washington to discuss International trade problems

1451. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Trade Ministers of 13 countries met in Washington from 10th to 12th May, 1984 to discuss international trade problems;

(b) if so, what are the names of the countries which participated in the discussion; and

(c) what are the details of the discussion held?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): (a) Yes, Sir. Some countries were represented by Trade Ministers and a few by their Finance Ministers or other Ministers.

(b) Besides the host country USA, the other countries which participated in the discussions are Australia, Brazil, Canada, European Community, India, Japan Mexico, New Zealand, Philippines, South Korea, Sweden, France and Yugoslavia.

(c) The discussions were informal in nature and covered wide ranging issues such as current international economic situation including high interest rates, debt problems and balance of payment difficulties of developing countries; protectionism; trade in services; and the proposal for a new round of trade negotiations in GATT.

Setting up of Dry Ports

1452. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal for the setting up of Dry Ports in the country; and

(b) if so, what are the names of the cities of the country particularly in Haryana, where such Dry Ports are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): (a) and (b) A proposal for setting up of a